

EPA to Give Update on Cleanup Progress

Adams Plating Superfund Site

Lansing, Michigan

July 2017

You're invited

EPA will host a public meeting on **Aug. 1** to give an update on the Adams Plating site.

The meeting will be held at the **Lansing Township Hall, 3209 W. Michigan Ave. from 6 to 8 p.m.**

For more information

If you have questions or comments on the Adams Plating site, contact:

For general questions:

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You may call the EPA toll-free:
800-621-8431, weekdays,
9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Website:

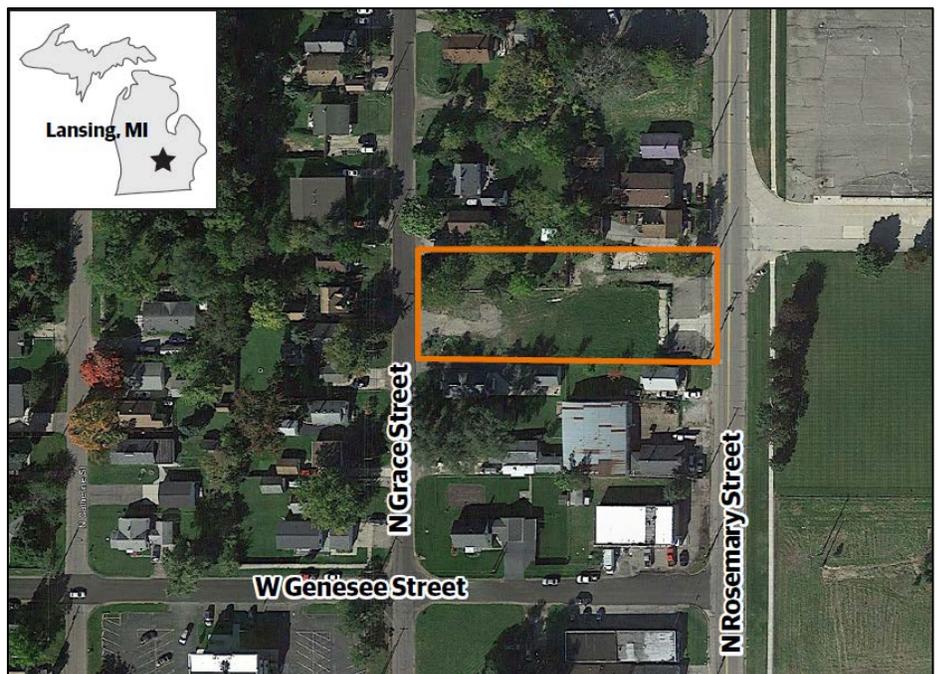
www.epa.gov/superfund/adams-plating

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is working with local and state agencies to make sure the community's health is protected from environmental contamination at the former Adams Plating Co. The 1-acre property is located at 521 N. Rosemary St. in Lansing. EPA's partners in the cleanup effort are the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Ingham County Health Department.

EPA will be hosting a public meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 1 to update the community on the site. In Spring 2017, EPA sampled the air inside several homes near the Adams Plating property and found there were no exceedances of vapor intrusion criteria and no immediate health concerns. Representatives of federal, state, and local environmental health agencies will be available to answer questions about the project.

What is Vapor Intrusion?

Vapors, also referred to as **soil gases**, evaporate from underground pollutants and get trapped between dirt particles. **Vapor intrusion** occurs when the soil gases migrate up through the ground and seep into buildings through holes or cracks in the foundation and cause hazardous indoor air pollution. If these gases enter a home, occupants can inhale them, which can potentially affect their health.



Aerial photograph of the Adams Plating Superfund site.

Background

Before 1964, a dry cleaning business that stored dry cleaning fluid in a 500-gallon underground storage tank occupied the former Adams Plating building. The tank was removed in the 1950s, reportedly due to leaking.

Ownership changed in 1964 and electroplating operations began, which used metals such as chrome, nickel and copper. Waste disposal practices before 1980 led to contamination of surrounding soil and underground water supplies called **groundwater**. The primary concern at the site was chromium in the soil. The government placed the location on the National Priorities List, or NPL, in March 1989.

The **NPL** is a roster of the nation's most hazardous waste sites eligible for cleanup under EPA's Superfund program.

Officials performed various investigations between 1980 and 1993. These investigations included on- and off-site monitoring of air, groundwater, soil, and **surface water**. Removal actions were implemented as part of the previous cleanup project and as an emergency response.

EPA signed a document called a **record of decision** for the selected cleanup plan in September 1993. EPA has also performed three, **five-year reviews** at the site since the completion of the original cleanup activities in 1994. These reviews ensure the cleanup steps put in place in the 1990s still protect public health and the environment.

In December 2010 a fire destroyed the Adams Plating building. EPA and MDEQ responded and conducted an emergency cleanup that tackled chemicals moving off the property due to the fire. The cleanup included containing surface water runoff, water removal from storm sewer catch basins, removal of contaminated snow, and decontamination of two residential basements.

In February 2011, EPA demolished and removed debris from the building, removed and disposed of a 10,000-gallon underground storage tank, removed hazardous substances stored on-site, excavated and disposed of contaminated soil under the former building and replaced with clean soil. After these short-term actions were conducted, EPA and MDEQ continued to collect and test samples from the site to evaluate remaining chemicals in soil, groundwater and soil gas.



Indoor air sampler positioned in basement of a residence.

Current conditions

Since 2011, EPA has completed additional site investigations to evaluate the nature and extent of hazardous substances, pollutants in source materials, soil, groundwater, and soil gas at or from the site.

Based on the concentrations in the soil, groundwater, and soil gas samples collected after 2011, EPA conducted additional investigations to evaluate the potential for vapor intrusion.

If gases enter a home, occupants can inhale them, which can potentially affect their health. To determine if the potential for vapor intrusion exists due to the Adams Plating site, EPA completed a vapor intrusion investigation at structures next to the property. Investigators collected indoor air samples at properties in March and July 2016 and March and May 2017.

Findings from those samples showed there were no exceedances of vapor intrusion criteria and no immediate health concerns.

Next Steps

EPA expects to complete the cleanup investigation report by February 2018.



Adams Plating site.

Glossary

- **Five Year Review:** a required review of sites where hazardous substances remain on site above levels that permit unrestricted use and unlimited exposure. Five-year reviews provide an opportunity to evaluate the implantation and performance of a remedy to make sure it is still protective of human and environmental health.
- **Groundwater:** water found underground.
- **NPL:** National Priorities List; a roster of the nation's most hazardous waste sites eligible for cleanup under EPA's Superfund program.
- **Record of Decision:** a document that outlines the cleanup plan for a Superfund site.
- **Soil gas:** contaminated vapor trapped between dirt particles
- **Surface water:** water found at ground level (e.g., a pond).
- **Vapor Intrusion:** when soil gases seep into buildings through holes or cracks in the foundation and cause hazardous indoor air pollution.

Additional Site Contacts

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August, 1
6 to 8 p.m.

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For more information about the site, visit www.epa.gov/superfund/adams-plating.

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